

## **ABSTRACT**

### **METHODS OF TREATMENT**

- 5 A method of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an agent which reduces sympathetic nervous system activity.

- A method of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method
- 10 comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of any one or more of the following: a compound which inhibits the effect of aldosterone such as an aldosterone antagonist; a chymase inhibitor; a cathepsin B inhibitor; a  $\beta$  receptor blocker; an imidazoline receptor antagonist; a centrally acting  $\alpha$  receptor antagonist; a peripherally acting  $\alpha$  receptor antagonist; a ganglion blocking agent;
- 15 a drug that has an effect on cardiovascular reflexes and thereby reduce SNS activity such as an opiate; scopolamine; an endothelin receptor antagonist; and a xanthine oxidase inhibitor.

The methods are particularly useful in treating cardiac cachexia.